

## Special Update on Historic UTLA Strike in Los Angeles

1 message

California Charter Schools Association <info@ccsa.org>  
Reply-To: info@ccsa.org  
To: brios@newlosangeles.org

Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 6:13 PM



A MESSAGE FROM  
**MYRNA CASTREJÓN**  
PRESIDENT & CEO, CCSA

### Special Update on Historic UTLA Strike in Los Angeles

Dear Friends,

As United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA) returns to the negotiation table today with LAUSD, I'm sure you've seen the anti-charter rhetoric in the news notch up significantly and wondered how we're weathering the din in Los Angeles? We want to address that background noise that has said that charter public schools are responsible for the financial challenges of the district. We know the truth: that charter schools are public schools that are not "siphoning" money from the district. That our schools are providing more access and opportunity to underserved populations across the state. And that parents—not billionaire interests—are the real movement behind our role in ensuring that every child has access to an education that meets their needs.

Today, the Washington Post editorial board plainly reaffirmed these truths. Writing that "Trotted out is the now-familiar and phony trope about charters 'draining' or 'siphoning' money from public schools," the article goes on to recognize that "Charters are public schools... In Los Angeles, 88 percent of students are Latino and black, and 82 percent are low-income... No question that charters must be held accountable, as all schools should

operations? Not the children's."

**Help us once and for all squash the false narrative out there by sharing our [Facebook post](#) and [Twitter thread](#) on this article today. Let's not waste this watershed moment in time where we can shed light on the truth about charter schools and the role they play in lifting up the public education system.**

You can also help amplify our movement's voice by sharing additional favorable stories that can be [found in our index of all strike-related news clips](#).

We have been inspired this week by our dedicated members who have worked hard to keep students safe and learning through it all. Attendance has remained high at our schools during the strike, while District attendance plummeted. Thanks to our collective efforts, our school communities have sustained positive, student-focused spaces for both kids and teachers alike. L.A. charter leaders, the CCSA team and partners are fighting hard to protect charter flexibility and rights by ensuring that damaging anti-charter policies are not passed as a result of these negotiations. We will continue to remain vigilant in the coming week. Stay connected, stay informed, and stay with our leaders and staff who are facing difficult challenges as we navigate this significant disruption.

In addition to helping to secure today's Washington Post editorial, the CCSA Communications team has been working tirelessly to combat any anti-charter narrative while reinforcing that we all agree education funding is a priority and that we should all be marching, together, in Sacramento. That is where the source of structural challenges like increasing pension burdens on districts, as well as shared challenges across urban areas in California, can be better resolved.

We are pleased to see that the proposed state budget Governor Newsom introduced addresses some of those issues while increasing investments in education; and yet the challenges in Los Angeles will need resolve at the local, County and State level to ensure that increased and more efficient funding allocations reach the classroom, where they are needed the most. This message, in addition to others I have been able to promote throughout the media, has led to favorable coverage and adjustments and corrections in national stories that relied on unfortunate, untrue hyperbole.

I encourage you to see all of this in the following list of media resources and clips:

- [Press Release Jan 15. CCSA: We Should Be Marching Together in Sacramento for More School Funding for All Kids](#)
- [CCSA LA Strike Media Kit](#)
- [Strike Coverage Since Mid-December](#)
- [Social Media Update, Jan. 16, 2019](#)
- [Dec 21 Statement: Response to call from UTLA on capping charter schools in LAUSD](#)

teachable moment. that this is a movement reflective of the values of promise, equity and hope--not values of divisiveness. That we have an opportunity to come together in transforming the California education landscape. And that we all believe that every child, no matter their zip code, deserves access to a high-quality education that meets their needs.

**Myrna Castrejón**

President and CEO, CCSA

This important message is brought to you by California Charter School Association



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## New LA ES Friday Email 1/18/19

1 message

Kate O'Brien <kobrien@newlosangeles.org>

Reply-To: Kate O'Brien <kobrien@newlosangeles.org>

To: brios@newlosangeles.org

Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 5:24 PM

Para leer en español haga clic [aquí](#).

[View this email in your browser](#)



# NEW LOS ANGELES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



### Mark your calendar

Monday, Jan. 21 - Martin  
Luther King Jr. Day (No  
School)

Tuesday, Jan. 22 - Morning  
Assembly (7:50-8:00AM)

Wednesday, Jan. 23 - Open  
House (7:00-8:00PM)

Thursday, Jan. 24 -  
Mindfulness Assembly (7:50-  
8:00AM)

Friday, Jan. 25 - Sports Day  
(free dress)

Monday, Jan. 28 - Morning

Dear New LA Families,

Thank you again for all of your patience and support as we navigated new drop off and pick up procedures during the LAUSD Teacher strike. LAUSD and UTLA have returned to the bargaining table and we hope this leads to swift resolution. However, as long as the strike continues we will continue to run drop off and pick up through the rec center and will work to prevent both cars and people having to walk past/through the picketers. The good news is we are not expecting any more rain for quite a while!

Don't forget that there is no school on Monday to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday. See you Tuesday.

As always please be sure to read all of the important information in this newsletter and don't

Wednesday, Jan. 30 - Music  
Concert (5:30-7:00PM)

Thursday, Jan. 31 -  
Mindfulness Assembly (7:50-  
8:00AM)

Thursday, Jan. 31 - Open  
House (8:30-9:30AM)

Monday, Feb. 4 - Morning  
Assembly (7:50-8:00AM)

Wednesday, Feb. 6 - 100th  
Day of School

Thursday, Feb. 7 -  
Mindfulness Assembly (7:50-  
8:00AM)

Friday, Feb. 8 - No School  
(Teacher Professional  
Development)

You can download the January  
calendar of events [here](#) and  
the January [lunch](#) and  
[breakfast](#) menus.

## Mission Pillar Awards



Jasen Lopez

This week's Respect for Self  
and Others award goes to  
Jasen Lopez. Jasen is always  
helping his classmates find

Warmly,  
Ms. O'Brien

## Recruiting for 2019-2020 School Year

It is time to start recruiting for the 2019-20 school  
year. After the break we have quite a few open  
houses. Here are some ways you can help.

- Take postcards to your former preschool or  
day care;
- Pass out flyers or postcards in your  
neighborhood, at local businesses, at church  
at the park;
- Volunteer to speak at an open house.

The open house dates are below and there are  
postcards and flyers in the office. If you are  
interested in giving testimonial at an open house I  
will meet with you to help plan what you will say.  
Parents are extremely important voices in the  
recruiting process and we are grateful for any  
support you can offer.

Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 31, 2019 at 8:30 am

Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 3:00 pm (English),  
4:00 pm (Spanish)

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 8:30 am

Monday, March 4, 2019 at 8:30 am

Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 8:30 am (application  
deadline 4:00 pm)

Additionally, if you have a younger sibling at home  
who will be enrolling next year you do not have to  
get picked in the lottery but you do have to turn in an  
application prior to the lottery so we can be sure to  
save the spot for you.

## African American History Month Meeting Rescheduled

problems, or just cheering them up. He models good leadership, by showing others how to be fair when playing games or how to solve a conflict. There are times as learners we can get disappointed in ourselves, but not Jasen. He is constantly encouraging himself and others to learn from their mistakes. We are lucky to have Jasen in our classroom to remind us what respect for self and others looks like in action! Keep it up, Jasen!



Mia Gudiel

This week's mission pillar award for Passion for Learning goes to a student who is always curious and eager to learn something new each day. She takes on challenges with a positive attitude and she is never afraid to ask for help. She is also extremely resourceful and takes her learning very seriously. We are so excited to celebrate Mia Gudiel!

thank  
you!

Our meeting scheduled for last Monday was rained out so we are adding a new date. We would love to have parents join us on Tuesday, Jan. 22 at 8:30AM.

We are preparing for our celebration of African American History Month in February. This week you should have received a flyer inviting you to participate in a planning meeting on Monday, Jan. 14 at 2:30PM. Additionally, you can complete the form at the bottom of the flyer if you would like to share some element of your culture, history or family traditions in your child's classroom. You could also share about a important figure in African American history or culture. You can download the form [here](#).

### After School Program

Hello New LA Families,

Sign up sheets for JMG dance classes were distributed as of yesterday during programming. We will be having two coed dance sessions. Spaces are limited and will be done on a first come first serve. It is also important that parents ensure their child attends programming on that day for the duration of the class. Our dance classes will be every Thursday, beginning January 31 and conclude on March 21. There are two sessions which are Tk/Kinder/1st grade students from 3:50- 4:50 and 2nd/3rd from 4:50- 5:50.

If you have any questions please feel free to email [sbarragan@newlosangeles.org](mailto:sbarragan@newlosangeles.org).

Best regards,  
Sylvia Barragan

### Specials Corner: Art

Each week you will get an update on one of the specials that all students participate in. This week we are highlighting Art with Ms.



parent volunteers  
this week;

Karina Rodriguez  
Rodney Johnson  
Mireya Lima  
Romero  
Karen Cabrera  
Josefina Lopez  
Tigist Mamo  
Misrak.  
Gebremariam  
Wondim Begna

### Supplies Needed For Art

Help the art  
program by  
donating the  
following  
recyclables

- Newspaper
- Empty and clean  
plastic gallon jugs  
(milk, juice, etc)
- Empty and clean  
plastic tubs  
(commonly from  
butter, sour cream,  
cream cheese, etc)
- Clean styrofoam  
trays

You can bring items  
to the front office  
Thanks!

Did you know New  
LA has a Facebook  
page? Click the

This week's visual art ed focus has been all about observation. Students in first grade experimented with drawing by comparing creations while looking at the object or not looking at the object they were drawing. Students were amazed at how much better they could draw when the object was right in front of them. Next, students learned about continuous contour drawings. The challenge is to not pick up your marker while drawing to make all lines connect. See examples below!



Check out the January Newsletter of community

check it out! You  
can see photos from  
school, leave  
comments, write a  
review and share it  
with friends and  
family. Don't forget  
to like and follow the  
page so new posts  
will show up in your  
feed.

Facebook

Events prepared by Mrs. Martinez from the  
Middle School. Click the image below to see the  
full newsletter.

**January 2019**  
Community Engagement Monthly  
Newsletter

**Events in our Community**

**The Mobile Museum Fair**  
The Mobile Museum Fair  
When: Sunday Jan. 13th 1-5pm  
Where: Los Angeles Central Library, 630 West 5th street

**First Book Family Festival - Saturday 1/12/19**  
**FREE BOOKS**  
**at the Magic of Storytelling Family Festival!**  
Thousands of free brand new books for kids ages 0 to 18 are available on a first-come, first-serve basis!  
All families, educators, and local programs are invited!  
**When?**  
Saturday, January 12, 2019  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
7 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Where?  
Lafayette Recreation Center  
8751 Lafayette Park Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90045

**MLK Celebration Events**

California African American Museum  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration 2019  
Monday, January 21, 2019  
10:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
<http://caamuseum.org/programs/current/martin-luther-king-jr-day-celebration-2019>

**Clothing and Community Breakfast**  
When: Monday Jan. 21st 10am-1pm  
Where: 6111 Melrose Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90038

**34th Annual Kingdom Day Parade**  
When: Monday Jan. 21st - 10am  
Where: 4030 W. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd.  
Santa Monica Symphony Orchestra's Martin Luther King Weekend Concert



Our mailing address is:  
5421 Rodeo Rd  
Los Angeles, CA 90016

Our website is:  
[www.newlaelementary.org](http://www.newlaelementary.org)

Our phone number is:  
323-556-9500

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# <1/18/19 Strike Update> PLEASE SHARE WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL BROADLY ASAP

1 message

Cassy Horton <chorton@ccsa.org>

Cc: Chris Copolillo <ccopolillo@ccsa.org>, Keith Dell'Aquila <KDellAquila@ccsa.org>, Jason Rudolph <jrudolph@ccsa.org>, Luis Figueroa <lfigueroa@ccsa.org>, Lee Condon <lcondon@ccsa.org>, Myrna Castrejon <mcastrejon@ccsa.org>

Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 11:05 AM

Dear LA Charter Leaders,

As UTLA and LAUSD are back in bargaining and working towards a new contract this morning, we remain focused on ensuring that an agreement does not include new policies damaging charter schools and enabling you to continue providing a secure, supportive environment during this week's strike.

We ask you to take the following two steps as soon as you can, prioritizing sharing the article below:

1. **Fill out this survey** to help us stay informed on protests at school sites (you should do this second, actually, but we wanted to make sure the link was easy to find).
2. **SHARE THIS PIECE from the Washington Post Editorial Board** broadly as soon as you can through your own social media outlets, with your charter school's board members, families/school communities, and your personal networks as you deem appropriate. Please see attached email to share with your staff and board. The editorial board's take is a much-needed counterbalance to the deluge of anti-charter rhetoric in the media at the moment - please share it to remind your communities of what is at stake. The piece takes a charter-positive angle on the strike from a national outlet; CCSA worked hard to share information about Los Angeles charter schools, resulting in the coverage, including language like the following:

*"Teachers in Los Angeles, like those in West Virginia and other states that saw a wave of protests last year, are right to focus attention on the need for public support of public education. California, despite its liberal image, lags behind much of the country on education spending, and the union would be more than justified to address its protests to Sacramento. But to the California Charter Schools Association? Depriving poor children of public-school options does not strike us as a progressive value."*

Again, here are some sample social media posts to share:

"Hyperbole, passion and spin have often trumped fairness, moderation and neutrality... Nowhere is that description more apt than with the battle cry the union is sounding against public charter schools."  
[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.d1f57bce837a](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73_story.html?utm_term=.d1f57bce837a)

"Depriving poor children of public-school options does not strike us as a progressive value."  
[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.d1f57bce837a](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73_story.html?utm_term=.d1f57bce837a)



be more than justified to address its protests to Sacramento."

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.d1f57bce837a](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73_story.html?utm_term=.d1f57bce837a)

Here are important updates from this morning:

- LAUSD and UTLA will return to the bargaining table starting at 11AM this morning at City Hall.
- UTLA is holding a rally in Grand Park at 10:30AM, and has instructed their members to show out in force.
- We expect, based on comments from UTLA and other sources, that bargaining may continue into the weekend.


Thanks for your support!

Cassy

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#### 2 attachments

 **Why does the L.A. teachers union want to limit the options for poor children\_ The Washington Post.pdf**  
123K

 **Draft- Email to Charter Staff and Board re WAPO Editorial on Strike and Charters.docx**  
14K

The Post's View Opinion

# Why does the L.A. teachers union want to limit the options for poor children?

By Editorial Board

January 17 at 7:00 PM

“HYPERBOLE, PASSION and spin have often trumped fairness, moderation and neutrality.” That’s how a [Los Angeles Times reporter](#) characterized the dispute between the Los Angeles Unified School District and the teachers union in the days leading up to [this week’s crippling strike](#). Nowhere is that description more apt than with the battle cry the union is sounding against public charter schools. The union seeks to pin the problems of the school system on charters — which offer valuable education choices, are popular with parents and generally benefit minority and poor children.

Teachers, librarians, counselors and others represented by United Teachers Los Angeles in the 600,000-student system, [the second-largest in the country](#), walked off the job Monday after months of failed negotiations. How long the strike, the first in the city since a [nine-day walkout in 1989](#), will last is unclear; we hope, for the sake of the students who are the ones most hurt by it, an agreement will be reached quickly. The two sides are close on salary but not on issues such as class size; additional counselors, nurses and other support staff; and more teacher control over school spending and testing. The sides fundamentally disagree about what the district can afford.

The union, casting the impasse as “[a struggle over the future of public education](#),” has taken direct aim at the charters, largely non-union, which enroll [about 1 in 5 of all L.A. public school students](#). The union wants a cap on their growth, along with stricter regulation. Trotted out is the now-familiar and phony trope about charters “draining” or “siphoning” money from public schools. Charters are public schools. In California, they are operated by nonprofit organizations, and the money they receive is public per-pupil funding that follows students. It is not the district’s money, nor the union’s money; it is the students’ money. In Los Angeles, 88 percent of these students are Latino and black, and 82 percent are low-income. A [2015 Stanford University study](#) found that students at charters in Southern California are learning more than their counterparts in traditional public schools. No question that charters must be held accountable, as all schools should be. But whose interest would be served by capping their growth and inhibiting their operations? Not the children’s.

Teachers in Los Angeles, like those in West Virginia and other states that saw a wave of protests last year, are right to focus attention on the need for public support of public education. California, despite its liberal image, lags behind much of the country on education spending, and the union would be more than justified to address its protests to Sacramento. But to the California Charter Schools Association? Depriving poor children of public-school options does not strike us as a progressive value.



**Read more:**

Helaine Olen: The resistance comes to Los Angeles

Arne Duncan: People are saying education reform hasn't worked. Don't believe them.

Mary Shaffner: Too many students, not enough bricks

Patricia A. Brantley and Irene Holtzman: Charter schools deserve equal funding

The Post's View: D.C. schools are improving slow and steady — and not enough

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## SAMPLE EMAIL TO CHARTER STAFF/ BOARD

Hello,

The UTLA strike continues to impacting traditional public schools across Los Angeles. While our independent charter public school is not party to these negotiations, we continue to monitor the issue closely. The strike has focused much-needed attention on our public education system, including the need for more funding and student support. Last week, the California Charter Schools Association's Executive Director, Myrna Castrejon wrote this letter to UTLA's president Alex Caputo-Pearl: [\*\*We Should Be Marching Together in Sacramento for More School Funding for All Kids\*\*](#). We are working hard to keep students, families, and staff safe during this challenging week for Los Angeles, and ensure that learning continues.

Unfortunately, UTLA's strike has also been leveraged as a platform for misleading and disappointing rhetoric regarding LA's vibrant public charter school sector. Today, the Washington Post published an excellent editorial that highlights this troubling attack on charter schools, and provides a helpful perspective on the work we do. So, at this important moment for education in Los Angeles, we ask you to:

**Read and then tweet, post, share, and email this op-ed to people in your network who are advocates for great schools, or may be wondering about the misinformation being shared. Here are some sample posts:**

"Hyperbole, passion and spin have often trumped fairness, moderation and neutrality... Nowhere is that description more apt than with the battle cry the union is sounding against public charter schools."  
[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.d1f57bce837a](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73_story.html?utm_term=.d1f57bce837a)

"Depriving poor children of public-school options does not strike us as a progressive value."  
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"California, despite its liberal image, lags behind much of the country on education spending, and the union would be more than justified to address its protests to Sacramento."  
[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.d1f57bce837a](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-does-the-la-teachers-union-want-to-limit-the-options-for-poor-children/2019/01/17/eb4a0946-19d5-11e9-8813-cb9dec761e73_story.html?utm_term=.d1f57bce837a)

If you have any questions, please let us know. We hope the strike will come to a resolution soon that is good for kids.

Sincerely,